

Message Text

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20

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-12 IO-12 OMB-01 GAC-01 RSR-01 /121 W

----- 109475

R 190820 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1879

INFO AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

USDEL JEC PARIS

DAO SAIGON

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E. O. 11652 N/ A

TAGS: MARR VS

SUBJECT: ICCS: CADEL ATTACKS POLDEL/ HUNGDEL CREDIBILITY GAP

1. DURING COURSE OF ICCS PLENARY MAY 18, CANADIAN HEAD OF DELEGATION GAUVIN DELIVERED ONE OF HIS STRONGEST ATTACKS TO DATE AGAINST POLDEL/ HUNGDEL ACTIONS. MAIN THRT OF GAUVIN' S CRITICISMS CONCERNED TOTAL FAILURE OF POLDEL/ UNGDEL TO AGREE ON BASIC FACTS FURING INVESTIGATIONS.

2. GAUVIN BEGAIN HIS REMARKS WHILE COMMISSION WAS DISCUSSING A NUMBER OF INVESTIGATION REPORTS, IN WHICH POLDEL/ UNGDEL HAD CONCLUDED IT WAS IMPOSSIBLE TO DETERMINE WEAPONS USED AND IDENTITY OF ATTACKING FORCE. ACCORDING TO GAUVIN, ANYONE ATTACKING ARVN POST WITH HEAVY ORDINANCE CAUSING NUMEROUS WOUNDED HAS TO BE A FORCE OF SOME CONSEQUENCE AND, SINCE ONLY TWO PARTIES ARE NAMED IN PARIS AGREEMENT, TO SAY IDENTITY OF ATTACKERS IS UNKNOWN IS STRAINING CREDITIBILITY.

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3. DURING OTHER BUSINESS, GAVINH FOLLOED HIS EARLIER COMMENTS WITH PREPARED STATEMENT THAT " CERTAIN DELEGATIONS" PERHAPS DID NOT REALIZE WHEN THEY CAME TO VIETNAM THAT, IN INTEREST OF DEFENDING CERTAIN CAUSE, IT WAS GOING TO COST SO MUCH IN TERMS OF THEIR CREDITIBILITY AS RESPONSIBLE MEMBERS OF WORLD COMMUNITY. HE TERMED THE INVESTIGATION CONCLUSIONS OF CERTAIN DELEGATIONS AS " ABSURD AND CYNICALLY LEGALISTIC". FURTHERMORE, TO CONCLUDE THAT ARVN IS CONTINUALLY FIRING ON OWN POSITIONS IS " INANE" AND CAN ONLY BE EXPLAINED BY " PARTIALITY" OF CERTAIN DELEGATIONS. COMMENT: WE UNDERSTAND FROM CANDEL SOURCES THAT STATEMENT WHICH WAS ORIGINALLY PREPARED SPECIFIED " POLDEL/ UNGDEL" RATHER THAN " CERTAIN DELEGATIONS". DESPITE SLIGHT SOFTENING, HUNGDEL STRONGLY REBUTTED WITH ACCUSATION THAT ARVN WAS COVERING UP LAND- GRABBING OPERATIONS THROUGH CONSPIRACY AND NUMEROUS COMPLAINTS OF OTHER SIDE. CHIP DELS MUST HAVE BEEN HALF- WAY EXPECTING SUCH A DEBATE TO EVENTUALLY BREAK OUT SINCE ATMOSPHERE DURING VERBAL RIPOSTE REMAINED CALM AND ALL STATEMENTS DELIVERED IN RATHER DISSPASSIONATE FASHION.
WHITEHOUSE

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TAGS: MARR, VS
To: BUDAPEST
DAO SAIGON
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JAKARTA
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